

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN HEAD RESTS FOR VEHICLE SEATS

(71) We, UOP INC., a Corporation organised and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America, of Ten UOP Plaza, Algonquin & Mt. Prospect Roads, Des Plaines, Illinois 60016, United States of America, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to head rests for vehicle seats.

According to the present invention there is provided a head rest for a vehicle seat comprising a cushion pivotally mounted on a head rest support for tilting movement about a horizontal axis into any selected one of a plurality of discrete angularly-spaced position and releasable locating means acting between the cushion and the support to lock the cushion in each of the selected positions, the releasable locating means being releasable against a biasing force by movement of the cushion relative to said support in a direction transverse to the said axis, and the cushion being tilttable about said axis whilst the locating means are in a released state.

The present invention also provides a head rest for a vehicle seat comprising a cushion pivotally mounted on a head rest support for tilting movement about a horizontal axis into any selected one of a plurality of discrete angularly-spaced positions and releasable locating means acting between the cushion and the support to lock the cushion in each of the selected positions, said locating means comprising a row of spaced-apart recesses and a pin movable along the row of recesses in the released state of the locating means in response to tilting movement of the cushion relative to the head rest support, the pin being movable into engagement with any selected one of said recesses by a biasing spring to lock the locating means, the locating means being releasable by a

translational displacement of the cushion relative to the support in a direction transverse to said axis against the force of the biasing spring. 50

One embodiment of a head rest according to the present invention will now be particularly described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of the head rest;

Figure 2 is a rear elevation, part in section of the head rest of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an underneath view, part in section, of the head rest of Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the head rest of Figure 1 but with the cushioning material removed and with parts cut away to reveal the internal construction. 65

As shown in the drawings, the head rest comprises a cushion formed by two foam mouldings, 10, 11, one moulding 10 consisting of relatively rigid polyurethane or other foamed plastics material which has been moulded on to a supporting plate 12 to leave a recess in the moulding on the forward side of the plate to receive the support mechanism 13 for the head rest. The other foam moulding 11 is made of a softer polyurethane or other foamed plastics material, this moulding having a recess on its forward side to receive the head of the seat occupant, and a recess on its rearward side to receive the first moulding and support mechanism. Both mouldings can have a self-skin, or a cover attached thereto. The two mouldings 10, 11 are secured together by adhesive in the final step of assembly of the head rest, with the support mechanism 13 lying between and surrounded by the two mouldings. 75

The support mechanism 13 comprises two U shaped brackets 14 which are located in opposing relationship on the supporting plate 12 and secured thereto by rivets 15 to form an open-ended box shape, the brackets extending vertically when the supporting plate is vertical. The arm 14a of each bracket which extends perpendicular 80

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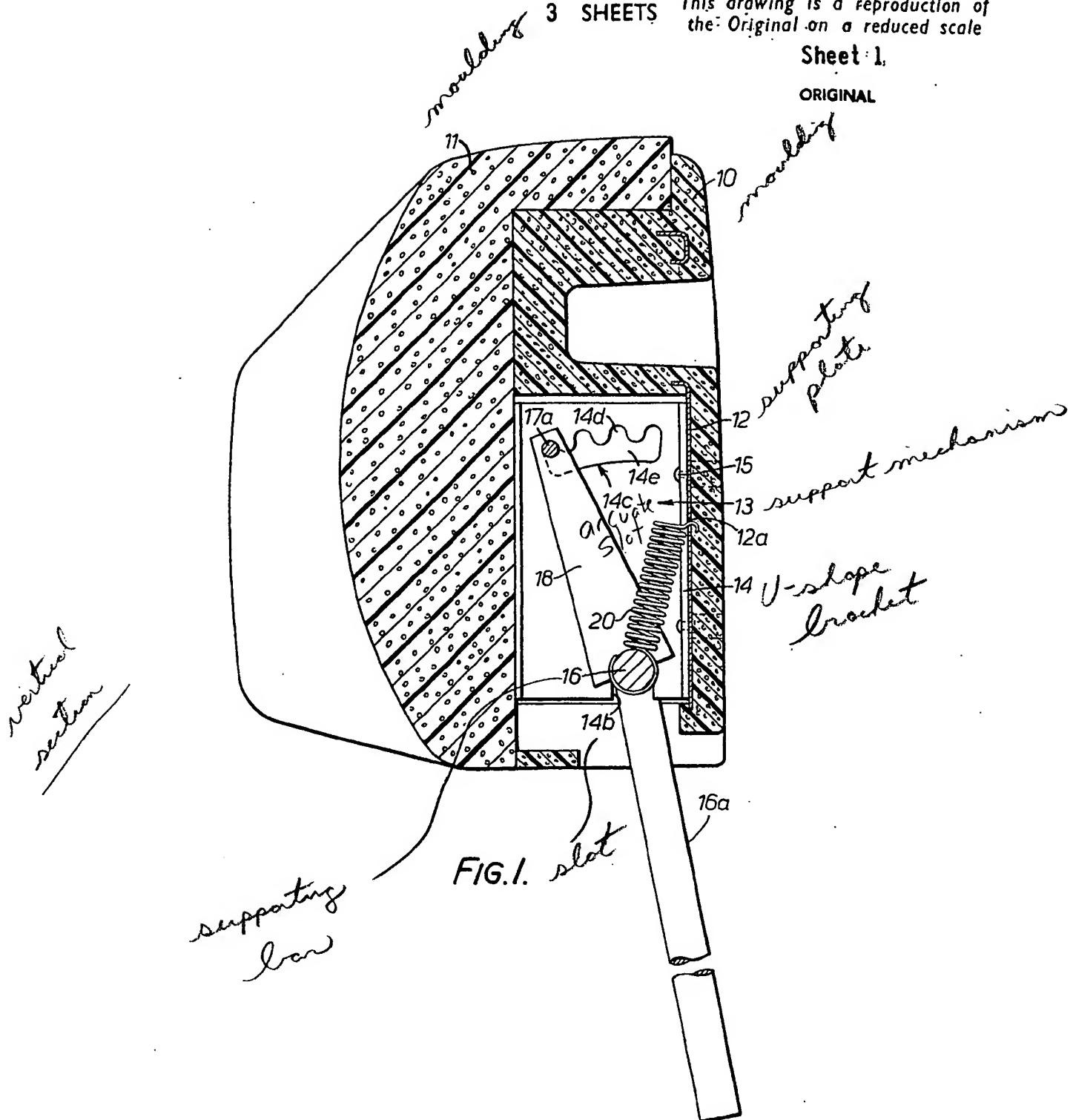
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Sheet 1.

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